

10/11/09

Freedom from Hypocrisy in Prayer: “Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread”

Matthew 6:11

- First, the *provision*
 - What Jesus doesn't mean:
 - To ask for daily *lusts*
 - To ask for daily *harms*
 - Why we are to pray this petition:
 - To remind us of *our calling*
 - To remind us of *our frailty*
- Second, the *Provider*
 - We pray to our Father because He is *all-powerful*
 - We pray to our Father because He is *all-knowing*
 - We pray to our Father because He is *all-loving*
- Third, the *petition*
 - We are to ask God for *what we did not earn*
 - We are to ask God for *what we did not deserve*
- Fourth, the *program*
 - The example of *Israel* trusting God for daily bread
 - The example of *Elijah* trusting God for daily bread
- Fifth, the *participants*
 - You can't call yourself a Christian if you are unwilling to meet a need you can meet
 - You can't disregard a need if you are a Christian and can meet that need
- Sixth, the *principles*

- Praying for our daily bread should *limit our excesses*
- Praying for our daily bread should *increase our awareness*
- Praying for our daily bread should *increase our thankfulness*
- Praying for our daily bread should *increase our humility*

World-wide Statistics

- At least 1 billion people do not have enough daily food
- The number of undernourished people increased by 75 million in 2007 and 40 million in 2008
- Six million children die every year, most from starvation
- 25,000 adults and children starve to death every day, over half being children
- Every six seconds a child dies of hunger and other related causes

National Statistics

- In 2008 the number of hungry Americans or Americans at risk of hunger was 36.2 million, including 12.4 million children
- Over 1/3 of people who contacted social agencies chose between buying food or paying their rent or mortgages
- Each person in America consumes on an average every year:
 - 195 lbs. of meat
 - 67 lbs. of poultry
 - 15 lbs. of fish
 - 593 lbs. of milk products
 - 30 lbs. of cheese
 - 28 lbs. of ice cream or related frozen products

- 104 lbs. of fat
 - 35 lbs. of salad
 - 13 lbs. of butter and margarine
 - 707 lbs. of fruit and vegetables
 - 200 lbs. of grain products
 - 152 lbs. of sugar and artificial sweeteners
 - Total = 2139 lbs. per year or 6 lbs. per day
 - Americans spend about \$618 billion per year on food
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- Each of us drinks an annual average of:
 - 53 gallons of sodas
 - 23.5 gallons of coffee
 - 22 gallons of beer
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- Over 60% of Americans are overweight
 - We consumed almost 30% less food back in the 50s
 - We consumed almost 10% less food in the 70s
 - Supermarkets carry over 400 produce items, up from 150 items in 1970, a 267% increase
 - The number of farmer's markets increased from 1700 to 2700 from 1990-2000, a 159% increase
 - Food companies now produce 3,800 calories per day, an increase of 500 calories per day more than our parents consumed
 - 7,000 of the 11,000 new food products marketed in the late 90s were junk food
 - 67% of food produced in America is junk food
 - We waste over 21 billion tons of food every year, an average of 70 lbs. per person or 2-300 lbs. per family

References

- Matthew 5:2
- James 4:2-3

- Romans 2:4-5
- Proverbs 30:8-9
- Matthew 5:46
- Matthew 6:7
- Matthew 6:8
- Matthew 6:32
- Isaiah 65:24
- Romans 8:32
- Matthew 7:9-11
- 1 Corinthians 4:7
- Luke 12:48
- Lamentations 3:22-23
- Matthew 20:1-16
- Exodus 16:1-36
- 1 Kings 17:6
- Psalm 37:25
- James 2:15-16
- 1 John 3:17
- 1 Timothy 6:17
- 2 Corinthians 8:13-15
- Proverbs 30:8-9
- John 6:11
- 1 Timothy 4:3